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Wednesday, September 15, 2010

## Black bear ramblings reported to police

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**HOLDEN** — The Police Department has issued an alert regarding black bear sightings in town.

“The Holden Police Department has recently received a few reports of black bear sightings in local neighborhoods as well as outlying rural areas,” which happens every spring and fall, according to a press release.

Police said bears have been reported near the northern sections of Wachusett Street, including Mason Road and Wood Street, and also in the area of Quinapoxet Street, Slipper Hill Lane, Tannery Drive, Cimarron Lane, Fort Sumter Drive, Forest Drive, and the Highland Street end of Nola Drive.

Police said bears are generally not aggressive, “but it can be disconcerting to have one near your home.”

Keep pets indoors or under your control, don’t feed pets outside, temporarily bring in bird feeders, and keep trash containers indoors. It might be wise to temporarily suspend composting for the time being, police said.

“Do not attempt to chase, frighten, or tease them,” police said.

Anyone who feeds a bear is creating a public safety hazard should call the Police Department at (508) 829-4444.

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